

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 09059 261829Z

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 EPG-02 AID-05
SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02
FEAE-00 OMB-01 XMB-02 OPIC-03 /115 W
-----261900Z 060217/40

P R 261817Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8604

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMCONSUL DOUALA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EINV, CF, US

SUBJECT: EXPROPRIATED US PROPERTY IN CONGO(B)

REFS: (A) STATE 97025; (B) BONN 8499

1. THE FRG EMBASSY IN BRAZZAVILLE REPORTS THAT THE CONGOLESE HAVE RESPONDED TO THE US NOTE (REF A, DELIVERED IN BRAZZAVILLE MAY 12) ON EXPROPRIATED US PROPERTY AND CONGOLESE ELIGIBILITY FOR GSP.

2. FOLLOWING IS AN INFORMAL EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF THE CONGOLESE NOTE VERBALE, DATED MAY 18 (RECEIVED AMEMBASSY BONN MAY 26).

BEGIN TEXT:

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PAGE 02 BONN 09059 261829Z

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (REPRESENTATION OF AMERICAN INTERESTS) AND, WITH REFERENCE TO ITS NOTE VERBALE NO. V.W. 203/53/U.S.403 NO. 53/77 OF MAY 13, 1977, HAS THE HONOR OF PROVIDING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE COMMITMENTS MADE BY THE CONGOLESE SIDE (REFERENCE IS MADE IN THIS CONTEXT TO THE NOTE VERBALE NO. 898 OF MARCH 2, 1977) CONCERNING THE PROBLEM OF INDEMNIFICATION TO THE COMPANIES MOBIL OIL AND TEXACO, WHOSE INSTALLATIONS WERE NATIONALIZED ON JANUARY 12, 1974, THE CONGOLESE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN ALL MEASURES TO LIQUIDATE THIS LEGAL DISPUTE.

IN FACT THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF HYDRO-CONGO, IN A LETTER (NO. 499/110.5 OF MARCH 17, 1977) TO THE REGIONAL OFFICE OF TEXACO-KINSHASA, SUGGESTED THAT THIS COMPANY AGREE ON A DATE FOR OPENING NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE CONGOLESE SIDE AND TEXACO. IN REPLY TO THIS LETTER THE REGIONAL OFFICE OF TEXACO-KINSHASA, IN A TELEGRAM (NO. 21.454 TEXACO ZR) DATED MAY 10, 1977, SUGGESTED THAT THESE NEGOTIATIONS BE OPENED ON JULY 7, 1977, A DATE WHICH IS AGREEABLE TO THE CONGOLESE SIDE.

MOREOVER, IN THE COURSE OF AN AUDIENCE GRANTED ON MARCH 16, 1977, TO MR. DELENNE, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION OF MOBIL OIL IN CAMEROON, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF HYDRO-CONGO AGREED WITH THE LATTER ON THE PRINCIPLE THAT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BEGIN BETWEEN JUNE 15 AND JULY 15, 1977, AT A DATE TO BE AGREED UPON.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE CONGOLESE SIDE DEEMS IT ENCOURAGING THAT THE COMPANIES MOBIL OIL AND TEXACO, IN CONTRAST WITH THE PAST, HAVE SEEN FIT TO DEPOSIT WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BONN 09059 261829Z

HYDRO-CONGO DOCUMENTED INFORMATION ON THEIR PROPERTY WITHOUT WHICH ANY DETERMINATION OF INDEMNIFICATION WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE.

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION ONCE AGAIN ASKS THE EMBASSY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (REPRESENTATIN OF AMERICAN INTERESTS) TO COMMUNICATE THE CONTENTS OF THIS NOTE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW THE ASSURANCE OF ITS HIGH ESTEEM.

END TEXT.
STOESSEL

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